Increase in suicide cases

†1847. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news regarding the increasing number of suicide cases day by day;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take effective steps or enact any law to eradicate the root causes of the increasing tendency of committing suicide among newly wed young women and students;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government under nation-wise campaign have taken any action against all those who have been fanning this tendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) Suicide deaths due to dowry disputes amongs women and due to failure in examination amongst students have shown decline in the year 2000 over the year 1999. The comparative figures are as under:-

	1998	1999	2000
Suicide due to Dowry disputes	2517	2572	2365
Suicide due to Failure in exams	2351	2279	2258

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the VIIth Schedule to the Constitution of India. The registration investigation, detection as well as prevention of crimes including crime against women and children is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. However, the Central Government has, from time to time, been writing to the State Governments and UT Administrations to take preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures.

The National Commission for Women (NCW) receives complaints relating to dowry atrocity cases including dowry related suicides.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

These cases are processed by the Commission under Section 10(1) (f) (g) of the National Commission for Women Act and are referred to appropriate authorities such as the Police/district magistrates, for appropriate action. The Commission sponsers awareness programmes including legal literacy programmes. The Commission launched a Dahej Mukti Abhiyan in 1998 to generate awareness among the youth. It also sponsers the 'Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalat' under the Legal Services Authorities Act where disputes are resolved through mediation.

The Government of India was adopted a National Policy for the Empowerment of Women. The policy reaffirms Government's commitment to deal with all forms of violence against women.

The Department of Women and Child Development and the Social Welfare Board implement information and mass education programmes linked with advocacy and legal literacy to generate public awareness about the issues concerning women and children including the evils of dowry. NGO's activist group at the grass roots and local panchayats are also involved in awareness camps.

Implementation of Domestic Lighting Programme through Solar Energy in Gujarat

1848. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic lighting programme through solar energy is under implementation in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(c) the funding pattern of this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry is implementing a country-wide Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) Programme in all the states, including the State of Gujarat. Under the programme, various SPV system, including solar home lighting systems (domestic lighting systems) are